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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/594,627

07/16/2007

Tetsuji Yoshimura

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38834

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12/09/2009

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WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

SERGEANT, RABON A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/09/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentmail@whda.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/594,627	YOSHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rabon Sergent	1796	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2009 and 14 September 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-10,12 and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-7,10,12 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9/28/06 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
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| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Within claim 1, the language, “including the polyether polyol (B1-1) as an essential constitutional unit”, renders the claims indefinite, because it is unclear if the language requires the polyether polyol to simply be present within polyol component (B) or if it requires that the polyether polyol be chemically incorporated into the polyester polyol. Furthermore, it is unclear how to interpret the use of the word, “essential”; it is unclear how the word further limits the claims.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 03/051952 in view of Hiraishi et al. ('266) or Nakamura et al. (US 2003/0225239) or Sparer et al. (US 2004/0033251) or Felt et al. (US 2005/0060022).

WO 03/051952 discloses medical adhesives having the same properties and derived from the same reactants as those instantly claimed; however, while WO 03/051952 discloses that stabilizers may be incorporated within the adhesive composition, the reference fails to disclose applicants' instantly claimed phenolic radical scavenger. However, the position is taken that the use of phenolic antioxidants that correspond to applicants' claimed phenolic radical scavenger within polyurethanes, suitable for use within medical applications, was known at the time of invention. This position is supported by the teachings of the secondary references. See Example 1 within Hiraishi et al. See paragraphs [0168], [0175], and [0177]-[0180] within Nakamura et al. See paragraph [0121] within Sparer et al. See Table 1 within Felt et al. Since it has been held that it is *prima facie* obvious to use a known component for its art recognized function, the position is taken that it would have been obvious to incorporate known phenolic antioxidants within the urethane based composition of the primary reference, so as to obtain an improved and further stabilized adhesive composition. *In re Linder*, 173 USPQ 356. *In re Dial et al.*, 140 USPQ 244.

4. It is noted that GB 2399345 is the English language equivalent of WO 03/051952; therefore, applicants are directed to this document for a full description of the adhesive composition within WO 03/051952. Specifically, applicants are directed to pages 8, 9, 11 (especially lines 25 and 26), 12 (especially lines 16-19), 18 (especially lines 22-28), 28 (especially lines 4-16), 40, and 47 (especially line 17) of the GB reference.

5. Applicants have argued that their showings of unexpected results rebut the *prima facie* case of obviousness and have further argued that their amendments render the argued showings commensurate in scope with the claims. In response, the examiner has considered applicants' examples within the specification and the examples within applicants' 37 CFR 1.132 declarations, filed December 26, 2007 and September 14, 2009; however, the showings remain insufficient to rebut the *prima facie* case of obviousness, because, despite applicants' remarks, the examples continue not to be commensurate in scope with the claims. As aforementioned, it has been held that the claims must be commensurate in scope with any showing of unexpected results. *In re Greenfield*, 197 USPQ 227. It has further been held that a limited showing of criticality is insufficient to support a broadly claimed range. *In re Lemin*, 161 USPQ 288. Applicants' examples are limited to specific polyol compounds having specific characteristics, such as specific metal contents; however, applicants' claims are not so limited. Furthermore, to the extent that the claims are commensurate in scope with the argued examples, it is not clear that the results are in fact unexpected. It remains unclear from the record that the use of the phenolic radical scavengers yields any result other than what would be expected. Further explanation with respect to why or how the results are unexpected is required. Accordingly, the prior art rejection has been maintained for the reasons of record.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to R. Sergent at telephone number (571) 272-1079.

/Rabon Sergent/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

R. Sergent
December 5, 2009